



## Terwilliger Fire Update

Southern Cascades Interagency Incident Management Team

Incident Commander, Neil Miller

Incident Commander Trainee, Dirk Rogers

September 29, 2018 - 9:00 A.M.

### Special Announcements:

**The public is asked to respect the road and area closures for protection to themselves and firefighters. Please refrain from entering the closed areas.**

The Terwilliger Fire Area Closure implemented August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 by The Willamette National Forest, remains in place and is strictly enforced. Safety of the public and firefighters remains priority directive. Active fire and fire suppression operations continue on the landscape. Violators will be prosecuted

Both Forest Service Road (FR) 19 and Terwilliger Hot Springs (also known as Cougar Hot Springs) are within the Terwilliger Area Closure. They remain closed due to unsafe conditions from gravity fall hazards including rocks, debris and fire weakened trees. The closure begins at the junction of FR 410 south to Box Canyon

**The McKenzie River District is conducting prescribed burns on the District.** The planned low intensity fires on the landscape are not in proximity to the Terwilliger Fire and should produce minimal smoke in the area.

*The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and the McKenzie Ranger District, Willamette National Forest jointly responded to the report of the Terwilliger Fire with both aircraft and firefighter resources. Although the fire did not burn on to ODF protected lands, the agency has stayed involved with suppression actions and planning.*

**Acreage:** Estimated 11,445 **Completion:** 80%

**Cause:** The fire is currently under investigation.

**Public Information Phone:** (541) 822-8216 Available 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

**Resources:** Total: 177 3-type 2 IA hand crews, 1-heavy lift helicopter, 1-light lift helicopter, 4-engines, 1-dozer, 4-water tender, 2-ambulances, 4-masticators, and 14-heavy equipment. Replacement personnel are arriving as others time out to ensuring proper staffing for suppression operations.

### Current Fire Information:

Fire activity was minimal in all divisions. Suppression repair continues throughout all areas of the fire. The west and south perimeters of the fire are in the patrol and mop up phase. Firefighters along the north perimeter continue prepping FR 1993 along the East Fork of the South Fork of the McKenzie River.

**FR 19 remains closed** A contractor continues work on Forest Road 19 to remove unstable rock, soil and trees located above the road that present potential for falling onto the roadway.

The Terwilliger Fire further exacerbated an existing problem on these steep slopes. The objective is to complete this work prior to the onset of winter rain and snow which makes these slopes even more prone to erosion and debris movement which in turn can block or damage the road surface. All material is being moved off-site to Strube Flat for utilization, as determined by local forest district management.

Hazard tree falling along FR 500 is ongoing to reduce fire weakened trees along this road system. Logs will be decked for future processing.

**Weather:**

An air mass pushing inland from the Pacific this weekend is expected to bring cooler temperatures 63-68, higher relative humidity 40-50%, and the chance of a thunderstorm.

**Restrictions:**

A **Forest-wide campfire ban** on the Willamette National Forest has implemented, including all campgrounds and Wilderness areas. For specific information on Forest Order 06-18-01-18-18, see the Willamette National Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/willamette/alerts-notice>.

**Closures:**

An **Area Closure** has been issued by the Willamette National Forest for the protection and safety of the public and firefighters. Closure order # 06-18-01-18-19 may be viewed in its entirety at <http://go.usa.gov/xRnz7> or on [Inciweb](http://inciweb.nwcg.gov). Please respect the closure areas for public and firefighter safety.

**Air Quality:**

For smoke monitoring information, see Oregon Department of Environmental Quality <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map> or <https://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/> or <http://www.lrapa.org>

**Information Resources:**

**Inciweb** – <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160>



**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/willamettewildfires/>

**Email:** [terwilligerfireinfo@gmail.com](mailto:terwilligerfireinfo@gmail.com)

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